

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is submitted concurrently with a new divisional application claiming priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/325,648, filed December 18, 2002. Claims 1-13, which were elected in the parent case in response to a restriction, are canceled in this preliminary amendment. Claims 14-26 remain pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request consideration of all pending claims.

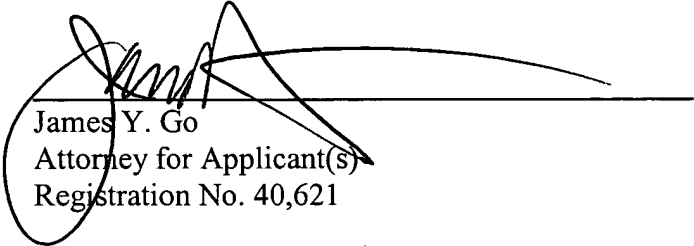
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Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee(s) that may be due in this matter, and please credit the same deposit account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 4-16-04



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